

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A cooling system for providing cooling air for a motor having a shaft extending through an opening within the motor, the motor being contained within a vacuum cleaner housing having a top and a bottom, the cooling system comprised of:

a cooling-air inlet located in a side of the vacuum cleaner housing;

a motor housing integral with the vacuum cleaner housing, the motor housing having a top portion defining a hole passing therethrough, the hole having a first dimension and being in flow communication with the cooling-air inlet;

a side wall surrounding the hole and extending from the top portion of the motor housing, thereby enabling the cooling air to flow from the motor housing through an interior of the side wall;

a baffle circumscribing the motor, the baffle having a second dimension that is greater than the first dimension enabling cooling air to pass through the opening in the motor along a length of the motor aligned with the shaft of the motor with at least a portion of the motor positioned within the side wall; and

a cooling-air exhaust outlet located in the side of the vacuum cleaner housing in flow communication with the motor housing and spaced apart from and in flow communication with the cooling-air inlet.

2. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein the cooling-air inlet extends generally parallel to the bottom along at least a partial length of the side of the vacuum cleaner housing.

3. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein the cooling-air exhaust outlet extends generally parallel to the bottom along at least a partial length of the side of the vacuum cleaner housing parallel to the cooling-air inlet.

4. (Original) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein the first and second dimensions are each a diameter.

5. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein:

the shaft has a first end and a second end;

a cooling fan is attached to a the first end of the shaft; and

an impeller is attached to a the second end.

6. (Original) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein:

a motor mounting platform forms the bottom of the motor housing and the opening in the motor is positioned spaced apart from the mounting platform with the motor secured to the platform.

7. (Original) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein a portion of the vacuum cleaner housing overhangs the cooling-air inlet.

8. (Original) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein a portion of the vacuum cleaner housing overhangs the cooling-air exhaust outlet.

9. (Original) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein the vacuum cleaner housing is comprised of an upper portion and a lower portion.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~cleaner~~ cooling system of claim 9 wherein:
the upper portion includes a top part and a bottom part; and
the top part is circumscribed by a bottom edge in which the bottom edge extends
beyond a top edge of the bottom part.
11. (Original) The cooling system of claim 10 wherein the bottom edge of the top
part overhangs the top edge of the bottom part.
12. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 10 wherein the bottom part of
the ~~top~~ upper portion is the motor housing.
13. (Original) The cooling system of claim 9 wherein the lower portion is a collection
canister.
14. (Original) The cooling system of claim 10 wherein the cooling-air exhaust outlet
is formed by securing the top part of the upper portion to the bottom part of the upper portion.
15. (Original) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein the cooling-air exhaust outlet
includes a bottom portion angled inwardly and in a direction toward the top of the vacuum
cleaner housing.
16. (Original) The cooling system of claim 15 wherein the bottom portion forms a
channel along the cooling-air exhaust outlet.
17. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 15 wherein the bottom portion
of the cooling-air ~~air~~ exhaust outlet is connected to the top portion of the motor housing.
18. (Original) The cooling system of claim 17 wherein the bottom portion of the
cooling-air exhaust outlet is integral with the top portion of the motor housing.

19. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim ~~17~~ 10 wherein the top portion of the motor housing separates the top part and the bottom part of the upper portion of the vacuum cleaner housing.

20. (Original) The cooling system of claim 16 wherein a plurality of spaced apart ribs are positioned along a length of the channel.

21. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 1 wherein the cooling-air inlet includes a bottom ~~portion~~ surface angled inwardly and in a direction toward the top of the vacuum cleaner housing.

22. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 10 wherein:

the bottom part of the upper portion is circumscribed by a bottom edge;

the lower portion of the vacuum cleaner housing is circumscribed by a top edge;

and

the bottom edge of the bottom part of the upper portion extends outwardly beyond the top edge.

23. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 22 wherein the bottom edge of the bottom part of the upper portion overhangs the top edge.

24. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 22 wherein:

the lower portion of the vacuum cleaner housing has a sidewall;

the top edge of the lower portion is displaced inwardly of the side wall; and

the sidewall tapers inwardly toward the top edge, thereby forming ~~the~~ a bottom surface of the cooling-air inlet.

25. (Currently Amended) The cooling system of claim 24 wherein a portion of the sidewall tapers inwardly toward the top edge forming a channel along the cooling-air inlet.